

XV.—Obituary.

Mr. F. C. APLIN and Sir JOHN W. P. CAMPBELL-ORDE, Bart.

FREDERICK CHARLES APLIN, a Member of the B.O.U. (elected in 1887), died on the 31st August, 1897, at his residence, Bodicote, Oxfordshire, at the age of 43. Born at Bodicote on the 14th March, 1854, he was educated for the most part privately, until he entered St. John's College, Oxford, where he graduated B.A. He proceeded to the degree of B.C.L., and was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn, but afterwards relinquished the Bar in order to practise as a solicitor. Apliu had an excellent knowledge of our native birds, and paid several visits to the east coast of England in pursuit of the autumn migrants and of wildfowl. In 1882, in conjunction with his two brothers, he published 'A List of the Birds of the Banbury District,' which was noticed in 'The Ibis' (1883, p. 375), and he was at one time in the habit of communicating occasional notes to 'The Zoologist,' the more important of which had reference to the plumage of the Kestrel, a subject in which he took great interest. Indeed, the Birds of Prey were always his favourites. Some birds of this order he kept in confinement from time to time, and his knowledge of the Accipitres as a whole was extensive. His copy of the first volume of the British Museum Catalogue, carefully annotated with references to 'The Ibis' and other works, bears testimony to the attention he paid to the Diurnal Birds of Prey, and he was a diligent student of all that the late Mr. J. H. Gurney wrote on the subject. Indeed, he always regretted the want of opportunities for carrying out, in a practical manner, his study of the Accipitres, upon which he would otherwise have doubtless become an authority. As a field-ornithologist his observations were characterized by scrupulous accuracy.

Sir JOHN WILLIAM POWLETT CAMPBELL-ORDE, of North Uist and Kilmory, Bart.—We have to regret the loss of another of the rapidly-diminishing number of the twenty founders and original Members of our Union, of whom eight

only now remain on the list. Sir John Campbell-Orde joined the 42nd Royal Highlanders from Eton in 1846. The regiment, consisting then of two battalions, was stationed in Bermuda. There was at that time in the regiment a little band of zealous naturalists, and every branch of natural history had its votaries. Our first President, the late Colonel H. M. Drummond-Hay, and the late Lt.-Col. Wedderburn, were the chief ornithologists, and young Orde, already a keen sportsman, was soon inspired by them with an ardent love for bird-life. He was a careful observer of the habits of birds, and collected diligently, wherever his regiment happened to be stationed, at home and abroad. Orde retired from the army on his marriage, after ten years' service. On succeeding to his father's title and estates in Argyllshire and Uist, he quickly made himself thoroughly well acquainted with public matters, and filled many offices connected with county business. He was Deputy Lieutenant and Justice of the Peace for Argyllshire. Not forgetting ornithology, Sir John paid special attention in the protection of the rarer species of birds in North Uist, and continued up to the time of his death to add to his collection. The gem of this he considered to be a fine male example of *Fuligula rufina*, obtained in Argyllshire, which is believed to be the only recorded Scottish specimen. While spending a few days at Kilmory last year, the writer of this notice was much interested in looking over Sir John's notes, especially those on the birds he had observed in Nova Scotia. Sir John was born in 1827, and died at his residence, Kilmory House, on the 13th of October last.